

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-5, 9-13, 15, 16, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated, rejected claims 2, 7m 14, 18, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 1-3 as being obvious, objected to claims 6 and 17 as being dependent on rejected base claims, objected to the title for not being descriptive, objected to the drawings for a numeral error, and objected to the specification for a numeral error. Claims 1-20 remain in the application.

The title has been amended in a manner substantially along the lines suggested by the Examiner.

The error in the drawings has been corrected in the enclosed drawing in the manner suggested by the Examiner. A marked up version is also enclosed.

The error in the specification has been corrected by amending the specification in the manner suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 6 and 17 were characterized as allowable and have accordingly been amended to independent form in the manner characterized as being allowable.

Claim 1 has been amended to correct some minor inconsistencies.

All of the independent claims 1, 11, and 13 were rejected as being anticipated by Manzo. With regard to claim 1, the Examiner characterized Manzo as teaching "a reference voltage ... that changes in response to changes in a voltage at the power supply terminal" because teaches a "threshold dependent on the supply voltage." Applicant, however, has not been able to find anywhere in Manzo that the reference voltage has a threshold that is dependent on the power supply voltage. On the contrary, Manzo states, "the first reference voltage (Vref1) is a fixed value corresponding to an overcurrent condition for switching circuit 14" at column 5, lines 11-13. Manzo then proceeds to describe the need for an offset elsewhere to "compensate for the fixed (i.e., not adjustable) first reference voltage (Vref1)." Manzo recognizes the problem but not applicants' solution. Accordingly, applicants submit that claim 1 is patentably distinct from Manzo. Further, claims 11 and 13 have a similar requirement to that of claim 1 and similarly patentably distinguish from Manzo. Yet further, the other dependent claims need now be analyzed in this light.

The Office Action contains numerous statements characterizing the claims, the Specification, and the prior art. Regardless of whether such statements are addressed by Applicant, Applicant refuses to subscribe to any of these statements, unless expressly indicated by Applicant. No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of

narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully solicited. Please contact the below-signed if there are any issues regarding this communication or otherwise concerning the current application.

Respectfully submitted,

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